

HCS HB 1113 -- NINTH GRADE CAREER COURSE

SPONSOR: Bangert

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 11 to 0.

Before January 1, 2018, the State Board of Education must convene a work group to explore a course offering that would cover topics related to exploring various career and educational opportunities, as specified in the bill. In addition to the topics covered the course should focus on career readiness and emphasize the importance of work ethic, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. The course should also demonstrate that graduation from a four-year college is not the only path to success and discuss other pathways.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that a work group exploring a course requirement aimed at teaching career readiness would be beneficial for students.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Bangert.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Such a course is included in the model school counselor's manual but not all schools have adopted the manual.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri School Counselors Association.